

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 10 and 15 - 17 are currently pending and under examination. By this amendment, claims 1 and 16 have been amended and claims 11 – 14 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 17 are independent. Accordingly, by this amendment claims 1 – 10 and 15 - 17 are currently pending and under examination.

Applicants note with appreciation that claim 17 has been allowed.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to replace “chamber” with “container” to provide sufficient antecedent basis for the “the buffer fluid in the interior of the buffer container contacts the sample” limitation.

By this Amendment, claim 16 has been amended to replace “securement” with “filter” to provide sufficient antecedent basis for the “the test strip being is by the ~~securement~~ filter so as not to be in contact with sides of said receptacle” limitation.

Therefore the amendments to claims 1 and 16 should not to be considered new matter. Accordingly, Applicants maintain that this Amendment is supported by the application, as originally-filed, and respectively request that this Amendment be entered.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited. Except for the fee due in connection with the two month extension of time, no fee is believed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any additional fee is due the amount of such fee may be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4709. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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